

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 PA-02 PRS-01

INR-07 INRE-00 SSM-05 H-02 USIE-00 /065 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:EOJONES:DP

APPROVED BY NEA/P:EOJONES

S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)

NEA/ARN - MR. DRAPER

SSM - MR. MCANDREW

H- MR. FLATEN (INFO)

NEA/IRN - MR. NAAS

NEA - MS. GRIFFIN

NEA/INS - MR. KUX

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O 261346Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

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AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
CINCEUR

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL, CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING - AUGUST 25, 1976

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 25,
1976:

--I WANT TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE SECRETARY WILL BE TESTIFYING
BEFORE THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE TOMORROW
AFTERNOON AT THREE O'CLOCK. THE SUBJECT WILL BE, AMONG
OTHER THINGS, PENDING U.S. ARMS SALES.

Q. IS THAT OPEN?

A. I BELIEVE IT WILL BE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

--FINALLY, I WANT TO READ A STATEMENT, A COPY OF WHICH WE
HAVE CIRCULATED, ON THE COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE:

--BEGIN STATEMENT: THE COLOMBO NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT MEETING
ADDRESSED A NUMBER OF CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ISSUES TO WHICH
WE WILL BE GIVING CAREFUL ATTENTION IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.
I WOULD LIKE, HOWEVER, TO RESTRICT MY COMMENTS NOW ONLY TO
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TWO ISSUES IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED

AND WHICH ARE BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS.

--THE CONFERENCE ADDRESSED THE ISSUE OF KOREA, WHICH FOR
REASONS OF BOTH HISTORICAL INVOLVEMENT AND RECENT EVENTS
IS OF DEEP CONCERN TO THE UNITED STATES, IN WORDS WHICH
WERE SO TENDENTIOUS AND ONE-SIDED AS TO BE UNACCEPTABLE TO

A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS AT COLOMBO WHO ENTERED WRITTEN OR ORAL RESERVATIONS. WE FIND THE ENDORSEMENT OF NORTH KOREA'S COMPLETELY UNFOUNDED CHARGES AGAINST THE UNITED STATES PARTICULARLY UNSEEMLY, COMING AS IT DID IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BRUTAL MURDER OF TWO US OFFICERS OF THE UN COMMAND IN THE JOINT SECURITY AREA OF THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE IN KOREA BY NORTH KOREAN ARMY PERSONNEL. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY COUNTRY WHICH SUPPORTS THE HIGHLY PARTISAN LANGUAGE ON KOREA CONTAINED IN THE DECLARATION AND, EVEN MORE SO, IN THE SEPARATE RESOLUTION ON KOREA CAN BE CONSIDERED NON-ALIGNED ON THIS ISSUE.

--WITH REGARD TO PUERTO RICO, THE CONFERENCE CALLED FOR DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER BY THE UNITED NATIONS AS IF IT WERE A COLONIAL ISSUE. WE CONSIDER ANY SUCH DECLARATION AS INTERFERENCE IN US DOMESTIC AFFAIRS. SINCE THE RECOGNITION IN 1953 BY THE UN OF PUERTO RICO'S ACT OF SELF-DETERMINATION, THERE ARE NO LEGAL GROUNDS FOR DISCUSSION OR ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THIS ISSUE BY ANY INTERNATIONAL BODY. AND WE WILL IGNORE ANY ACTION TAKEN BY AN INTERNATIONAL BODY ON THIS ISSUE. END STATEMENT.

Q. IS THERE ANYTHING IN THE NEW AMERICAN INITIATIVE TO HELP SOLVING THE LEBANESE CRISIS, ESPECIALLY AFTER THE NEW DIPLOMATIC MOVE OR THE MEETING WITH JUMBLATT?

A. AS I HAVE SAID PREVIOUSLY, OR THIS WEEK, MR. HOUGHTON AND MR. MACK WERE NOT TAKING ANY SPECIFIC AMERICAN PLAN. THE PURPOSE OF THEIR GOING INTO THE CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED PART OF BEIRUT WAS TO ENABLE US TO TALK WITH THE LEADERS WHO ARE LIVING ON THAT SIDE OF THE LINE. AND AS FAR AS MEETING WITH OTHER PEOPLE, OBVIOUSLY OUR EMBASSY IN WEST BEIRUT HAS CONTINUED ITS CONTACT WITH LEBANESE LEADERS

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WITH WHOM THEY HAVE ACCESS. LET ME SAY, AS I HAD INDICATED YESTERDAY, MR. HOUGHTON AND MR. MACK HAVE RETURNED TO CYPRUS ;HOWEVER, AS OF WHEN I CAME INTO THIS BRIEFING, WE HAD NOT AS YET RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THEM.

Q. YOU DON'T YET KNOW WHETHER FRANJIYAH AND SHAMOON ASKED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AMERICAN EMBASSY ON THE CHRISTIAN SIDE OF THE LINE?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THEY ASKED, BUT I CAN SAY CATEGORICALLY WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF OPENING AN OFFICE IN CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED LEBANON.

Q. WOULD YOU DENY THAT YOU ARE CONSIDERING OPENING A CONSULATE IN JOUNIEH? I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT AN EMBASSY.

A. I SAID WE ARE NOT GOING TO OPEN ANY OFFICE IN CHRISTIAN-CONTROLLED LEBANON.

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